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IN REPLY REFER TO: 7330-7/1700A3

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable E. (Kika) de la Garza U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman de la Garza:

This is in reply to your letter of February 10, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Paul E. Vassberg, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituent is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest. Your constituent's letter will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Ralph A. Haller

Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Edward R Jacobs

Enclosure

CC:

Chief, PRBureau Chief, LM&MDivison Docket Files, Room 222 P&P Branch File (Pink)

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CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM 02/18/93

LETTER REPORT

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CONSTITUENT'S NAME SUBJECT				
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REMARKS: Respond to the Washington, D.C. office

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-4315

10 February 1993

PRBS PD

Ms Lou Sizemore Congressional Liaison Specialist Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N W, Room 808 Washington, D C 20554

Dear Ms Sizemore

The attached correspondence from my constituent, Mr Paul E Vassberg of Lyford, Texas is self-explanatory.

It is referred to you for your consideration and advice, commensurate with your policies. I would greatly appreciate your counsel in this regard, and I will look forward to hearing from you at my Washington office.

With my thanks and highest regards, I am

Sincerely

(Kika) de la

Garza, M

mah
attachment

Paul E. Vassberg RR-1, Box 55 Lyford, Tx 78569 Jan. 28, 1993

The honorable E.(Kika) de la Garza 1524 Longworth House Office Bldg. Wash., D.C. 20510 U.S. House

Dear Mr. de la Garza,

I have been a teacher/farmer/businessman in south Texas for over thirty years, and appreciate the manner in which you have represented our district. One of my hobbies is constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes.

I am writing you about a concern I have about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the FCC. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations, but our assigned frequencies in this band are far enough apart—from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan, possibly resulting in interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly, many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the "freqs", and if the number is diminished as proposed, the remaining ones will become congested and the margin of safety may be greatly decreased.

You may be aware that some models have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much 30 or 40 pounds. They are costly to build, and are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly at organized events where many people attend both as contestants and as spectators.

I don't know exactly how to judge the relative merits of this hobby vs land mobil radio use (I'm in that too), but I do know that this hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry. Furthermore, here in the Valley, many "Winter Texans" are influenced to come here because they can pursue their RC model flying hobby here in winter. That's good for our area's economy.

Thank you for your condideration in helping me and my friends continue the safe enjoyment of our pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band without first seeking some reasonable alternative.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Vassberd